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15 December 1953

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
College of Agriculture
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin.

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I am still deep in clinical medicine - busy night and day on a very busy medical service. It has been terrific to get back, but I must say I miss the laboratories.

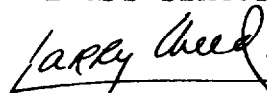
I write to you now for two reasons. First I am very curious as to your present thoughts on the "copper" organism. Have you been able to reproduce the findings? (The final paper will be out in the December Jour of Bact). If so what do you think is going on?

Secondly - I am planning to go to Yale next year and reengage in research on nucleic acids and pyrimidines. I want very much to do some good chemical comparisons of the normal and "copper" bug DNA. In fact it is possible that we can get a little of that underway here or at Penn before July. It would of course be of great help to know your thoughts in this matter as they develop.

What do you think of B. Wrights article on Auto-adaptation?

I shall be interested in hearing from you. Your remarks may well affect the program which I am trying to outline in the immediate days ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Larry Weed.